

Wilmington Aug 29th 1885

My Dear Dr. Gray,

Your kind note of 24th inst. came duly but several pressing affairs have deferred all correspondence until today.

I did not fail to notice what you say about the pubescence of the species of *Douglasia* mentioned. While I am now willing to think that *D. rivalis* and *D. montana* may be kept apart, there is yet great variation in the latter and ~~no~~ end of branched or stellate pubescence on the pedicels and calyx in ~~some~~ ^{most} cases and indeed rarely a branched hair can be detected on the leaves. But mostly the leaves are smooth except the ciliate margins.

Mrs. Cauby sends her kind regards to you and Mrs. Gray and thanks for your inquiries about her health, which I am glad to say has improved. She is staying much at home now on account of recent bereavements. We are expecting the children of some old and dear friends to visit us next month. I shall want to show them town and country, but must, if I can, break away to meet Sargent at Norfolk, on his return from the proposed trip to the N.C. mountains, and pilot him up the Va., Md. + Delaware peninsula. It looks as if this might be towards the last of the month. As yet I have only his note proposing to leave for the Natural Bridge, Roan Mt. + southward on the 10th Sept. I wish I could take

in the whole affair as he asks me to. But it seems strange to take that journey now without you and Mrs. Gray! and I do not see how I can spare the time for any except a very short journey this year. So we shall probably be pretty steady members of the "home guard" this season.

Ever sincerely Yours,
Wm. Cauby